

Sept/Oct 2013

Eastern Express

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Eastern Library System participants and mentors at the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute

From the Director

by Gail Formanack

With the advent of fall, it always seems as if there are new beginnings to look forward to. Schools and colleges begin a new academic year, families set new schedules as their children return to school, and public libraries recover from the summer reading program rush and concentrate on tasks such as accreditation. I have been on the road since July visiting many of the public libraries in our seven county region. I also plan to begin additional marketing of ELS resources and services to K-12 schools in the near future.

The Eastern Library System board had its first meeting of the new year in August. Four new board members were welcomed, and new officers were selected. Committees have been formed which will begin work to plan continuing education offerings, fund raising opportunities, and a strategic plan. Any ELS member library is eligible to serve on a committee or provide input. Please contact the office if you are interested in contributing to these efforts.

Thirty-six Nebraska librarians participated in the bi-annual Nebraska Library Leadership Institute at the St. Benedict's Retreat Center in Schuyler. ELS library services assistant, Brian Maass, was one of the participants along with fifteen other librarians representing various ELS institutions. Serving as mentors this year from Eastern Library System were Kathy Tooker, Joyce Neujahr, Manya Shorr, and myself.

Hear from ELS Nebraska Library Leadership Institute scholarship winners on page 3.

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ELS Board of Directors

(2013-2014)
Rose Barcal
Francine Canfield
Nora Hillyer
Marcia Jussel
Lowen Kruse
Tammy Lorenz
David Privett
Anneka Ramirez
Gayle Roberts
Rosa Schmidt
Sarah Swain



September 25th to 27th - MPLA Annual Conference--
Sioux Falls, SD

September 25th to 28th - Association of Rural &
Small Libraries Conference--Omaha

October 4th - ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am—Bellevue
University Library

October 9th to 11th - NLA/NSLA Annual
Conference—Kearney.

October 17th to 19th - MAALL Annual Meeting—
Omaha.

October 21st to Nov 1st - Basic Skills Course:
Collection Management. Register by Oct 11 at
<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/>

October 26th - Celebration of Nebraska Books, 3:30
pm—Nebraska History Museum

November 1st - DIRECT Meeting (Public Library
Directors) - Waterloo Public Library

November 4th to 15th - Basic Skills Course:
Programming and Outreach. Register by Oct 25 at
<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/>

November 15th - Summer Reading Program Workshop.
See page 10 for information.

December 2nd to 13th - Basic Skills Course: Library
Governance. Register by Nov 22 at
<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/>

December 13th - ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am—ELS
Offices, 11929 Elm St

Regional Systems to host Customer Service Workshop at NLA/NSLA Conference

There is still space available in the **Breaking Down Barriers to Excellent Customer Service** Pre-Conference on Wednesday afternoon, October 9th in Kearney. Arrive early for the Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska School Librarians Association Annual Fall Conference and experience this extra learning opportunity.

The Regional Systems (including Eastern Library System) will be hosting the workshop, which is presented by Theresa Dickson, Assistant Director at the Pioneer Library System in Oklahoma. Register for the half-day workshop, along with the Fall Conference, at <http://nebraskalibraries.org/conf2013/> See flyer on page 9 for more details.

Nebraska Library Commission Awards 21st Century Skills Scholarships

Thanks to a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Nebraska Library Commission recently awarded Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian scholarships to sixteen Nebraska students in undergraduate Library Science programs.

Students who wish to apply for scholarships for a Library and Information Services Professional Certificate (offered through Nebraska's community colleges), an Associate of Arts or Science Degree in Library and Information Services, a Bachelor of Arts or Science Degree with a major in Library and Information Science or Library Media, should submit application materials by November 1, 2013. See <http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.nebraska.gov>.

Spring/Summer 2013 Scholarship Recipients from the ELS area include:

- Kassandra Bielenberg, Omaha
- Nancy Black, Uehling
- Gabrielle DeGagne, Omaha
- Justine Goeden, West Point
- Maureen McCombs, Gretna
- Julianne Moulton, Omaha
- Mary Jo Pittman, Omaha
- Samantha Stock, Omaha
- Jordan Stough, Bellevue

ELS Board Meeting Dates and Locations for 2013-14

October 4, 2013	Bellevue University
December 13, 2013	Eastern Library System Office
February 14, 2014	Gretna Public Library
April 11, 2014	Oakland Public Library



NLLI Report from ELS Leaders

The Nebraska Library Leadership Institute was held August 5 through 9 in Schuyler. The Eastern Library System was able to sponsor five of our members through the professional development scholarships offered in our previous issues of Eastern Express. A total of 16 library professionals from ELS attended the institute, in addition to 4 excellent mentors. See picture on page 1.

We asked our scholarship winners to share a little about their experience:

Dawn Moynihan

In August, I attended the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute (NLLI). I was looking forward to having this opportunity to join fellow librarians and expand upon our leadership knowledge and discuss the challenges of leading in the global library world of today. Meeting and discussing these issues in a more intimate setting than a large conference is something I didn't want to miss out on.

Upon graduating from the program, I felt I had gained insight into my own leadership style and leadership potential. One of the benefits from this institute is that I have solidified my passion to become a leader in Nebraska libraries and have gained vital management tools to help me along the way.

Wendy Lukert

I would like to thank the Eastern Library System for the scholarship to this year's Nebraska Leadership Institute. The institute was an amazing learning experience. I walked away from this experience with the knowledge and confidence that I can be a leader in librarianship and other aspects of my life. I learned a lot about myself including how I can interact with others who have different leadership styles.

Another valuable benefit of this leadership institute was the opportunity to talk with and work with other librarians with different experiences and backgrounds. It was very interesting to see how similar but yet how different the public, school, academic, and special libraries concerns and issues are. I am hoping to stay in contact with several of the librarians that I met through this institute and am looking forward to possibly meeting up with them at conference in October.

Jean Hurst

Learning about our personality/leadership types using the Enneagram model was a good way to learn about why people lead the way they do. We also participated in learning groups to complete case studies, work problem solving exercises and complete a strategy game.

This was a very good learning experience and I'm a really glad I attended this Institute. Not only do you learn leadership skills, you also learn to create vision statements, strategic goals, and helping to discover your weaknesses and strengths. Finally you develop connections with people from libraries across the state.

Amy Wenzl

I was incredibly excited to be selected as a scholarship recipient for the 2013 Nebraska Library Leadership Institute. It was not only a fantastic networking opportunity for everyone involved, but also an opportunity for personal and professional growth as we looked at our own personality and leadership styles, how to build critical mass within our organizations amidst constant change, and discussed our visions for the future of libraries across the nation and in our individual communities.

It's rare to be in an environment where mentors and one's peers can provide honest and constructive feedback on one's performance. I can truly say I am coming out of this institute more aware of my own strengths and weaknesses and will become a better professional and a better leader because of it. Thank you to the Eastern Library System and the Continuing Education Committee for this wonderful opportunity.

Alissa V. Fial

The time spent was exhaustive and when asked about my time there, I am often left at loss. We did so much that it is difficult to put into a few sentences. However what I got out of my time at the Institute, I have found invaluable. Also, I would highly recommend anyone who has the chance to go, to do so. Those who attend will be put into a safe environment, where you get to question what type of leader you are, where you want to go in your career, and most importantly where do you see the future of libraries.

The Institute allows you the freedom to grow and learn from others. My advice to anyone reading this: please attend, you will not regret it, and put yourself out there. Allow yourself to be vulnerable and try something that may make you feel uncomfortable. Due to the safe environment, you will get more out of your experiences and you will not be judged harshly. The NLLI was an outstanding experience and I know it will influence my professional life for years to come.



Omaha Public Schools

Omaha Public Schools opened two new buildings this fall. Alonza W. Davis Middle School is located near 132nd and State Streets. The school library is located on the main level with many windows to connect the library users to the outdoors. The space can accommodate two classes in the main library and has an adjacent computer lab. The librarian is Kim Moriarty.



Davis Middle School

Gateway Elementary School opened on 42nd Street just south of Q. The library has two teaching areas and a computer lab. The library is named the Carol Ann Daneff Memorial Library thanks to a memorial gift given by her sister. The extra funds were used to purchase soft seating for recreational reading and to install some lovely graphics on both sides of the entrance wall.



Gateway Elementary School

Blair Public Library

Director Gayle Roberts of the Blair Public Library reported that she was immensely pleased with the results of their summer reading program. They had 1,134 participants, up from 897 in 2012. Participants wrote about 16,832 books which is almost half of the more than 31,000 books that were checked out during that time frame. 7,360 people participated in the 85 programs hosted during the summer reading program. She is especially proud of the more than 2,000 hours of volunteer time that made the program such a success. One of the projects was the production of quilts with a reading theme.



Gayle Roberts and Wendy Luckert show off two quilts

Creighton University Health Sciences Library

Jim Bothmer (Library Director) was elected President-Elect of Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) for 2013-2014 at the 2012 AAHSL annual meeting, held in conjunction with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) annual meeting, BICInformer.

North Bend Public Library

Amy Williams, director of North Bend Public Library, is leaving the position to spend more time with her young family. A new director, Beth Maline, will take over after October 1st.

United States Congress

U.S. Representative Jeff Fortenberry received the United for Libraries' 2013 Public Service Award during the ALA National Library Legislative Day for his support of libraries. Fortenberry serves Nebraska's 1st congressional district, which includes much of the Eastern Library System.



Ezra Jack Keats Foundation Accepting Mini-grant Applications

Established by children's book author and illustrator Ezra Jack Keats, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation is accepting applications from public schools and public libraries anywhere in the United States and its territories for program or event mini-grants of up to \$500.

The mini-grants program is intended to support projects that foster creative expression, collaboration, and interaction with a diverse community. The funding program provides an opportunity for educators, whose efforts are often inadequately funded or recognized, to create special activities outside the standard curriculum and make time to encourage their students.

Projects funded in the past include murals, pen pal groups, quilts, theater productions, newspapers and other publications, intergenerational activities, and programs that bring disparate communities together.

Public schools and public libraries are eligible to apply. Only public organizations are eligible; private schools should not apply. Only one application from each library or school will be considered.

Complete program guidelines, a video tutorial for applicants, and the application form are available at the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation Web site: <http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org/minigrant-program/>

Small-town public library grant applications deadline approaching

Small-town public libraries have until October 1, 2013 to submit short-form applications for grants from the Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund. The Fund was established to provide support for public libraries located in communities with populations less than 3,000. Once the short-form application is approved, a more detailed application must be completed and submitted by January 6, 2014. Grant awards are announced in March.

The late Shirley Kreutz Bennett of Lincoln established the fund through the Nebraska Community Foundation because she wanted to help smaller communities gain better access to knowledge and information. Following Ms. Kreutz Bennett's wishes, a fund advisory committee recommends grants in three areas: planning grants leading to accreditation; enhancement grants to improve library services and/or programs; and facilities grants for new facilities or the renovation, restoration or rehabilitation of current libraries.

All grants require a certain level of matching funds and evidence that the project has broad community support. Approximately \$70,000 is available each year. Grant seekers are encouraged to review the guidelines and application procedures at www.nebcommfound.org/fund/kreutzbennett.

Earlier this year, grants were approved for Ashland and Valley.

For more information, contact Reggi Carlson, NCF Communications Director, (402) 323-7331 or rcarlson@nebcommfound.org.

Win the National Medal for Museum & Library Service!

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is seeking nominations for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's highest honor for exemplary museum and library community service. The medal winners will be the institutions that make the most extraordinary civic, educational, economic, environmental, and social contributions.

Any individual may nominate a library for the National Medal and all types of libraries, including public, school, academic, research, and archival, are eligible to receive this honor. Recipient institutions receive the National Medal at a ceremony held in Washington, D.C., and a \$5,000 award in recognition of their extraordinary civic, educational, economic, environmental, and social contributions. After the ceremony, StoryCorps—a nonprofit organization dedicated to sharing the stories of Americans—visits each institution to provide an opportunity for community members to share the stories of their lives. These stories are preserved at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

For more information and to access the nomination form, please go to: www.imls.gov/medals or contact Michele Farrell, Senior Library Program Officer, 202-653-4656, mfarrell@imls.gov



Conference Updates

The **Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL)** Annual Conference will be September 25-28, 2013 at the Doubletree in Downtown Omaha. Lee Rainie, Director of the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, will serve as opening keynote speaker Thursday morning. Sally Gardner Reed, Executive Director of ALA's United for Libraries, will be the closing keynote on Saturday.

Mary Beth Stenger, director of the Southern Area Public Library and winner of the 2013 Best Small Library in America award from Library Journal, will tell her story. For conference details, see:

<http://arsl.info/category/conference2/>

The Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska School Librarians Association Annual

Conference will be October 9 through 11 in Kearney. Registration is now open. See the conference website:

<http://nebraskalibraries.org/conf2013/>

The **Mid-America Association of Law Libraries (MAALL)** will hold their annual meeting October 17-19, 2013 at the Embassy Suites in the Old Market.



Youth Services Retreat

Robin Clark and Laura England-Biggs practice creating henna tattoos at the Youth Services Retreat September 12. The retreat was two days filled with sharing ideas and learning with Children's and Teen Librarians from across eastern Nebraska.

Letters About Literature Contest for Young Readers

Readers in grades 4-12 are invited to write a personal letter to an author for Letters about Literature (LAL), a national reading and writing promotion program. The letter can be to any author (living or dead) from any genre—fiction or nonfiction—explaining how that author's work changed the student's view of the world. This program is sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, in partnership with Nebraska Center for the Book and the Library Commission, and locally supported by Houchen Bindery Ltd.

Submissions from Grades 9-12 must be postmarked by December 10, 2013. Submissions from Grades 4-8 must be by January 10, 2014.

Prizes will be awarded on both the state and national levels. The Nebraska Center for the Book's panel of judges will select the top letter writers in the state, to be honored in a proclamation-signing ceremony at the state capitol during National Library Week in April 2014. Their winning letters will be placed in the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Bennett Martin Public Library in Lincoln. Nebraska winners will receive state prizes, and then advance to the national judging.

A panel of national judges for the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress will select one National Winner per competition level (Level I for grades 4-6, Level II for grades 7-8, and Level III for grades 9-12) to receive a \$1,000 cash award. The judges will also select one National Honor winner on each competition level to receive a \$200 cash award, to be announced in May 2014.

Teachers, librarians, and parents can download free teaching materials on reader response and reflective writing, along with contest details and entry forms, at www.read.gov/letters.

Nebraska-specific information (including letters of past winners) is available at <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/programs/LAL.html>

For more information contact Mary Jo Ryan, 402-471-3434 or 800-307-2665, e-mail: maryjo.ryan@nebraska.gov.

How Can We Help? : The Affordable Care Act, Healthcare Marketplace, and the Nebraska Library Commission

By Mary Sauers, Nebraska Library Commission

As almost everyone is aware, the next phase of the Affordable Care Act, and more specifically the Healthcare Marketplace Open Enrollment, goes into effect October 1st of this year.

The Nebraska Library Commission has been pulling together resources to aid libraries and librarians in guiding patrons to the information they will need for Open Enrollment. The list of questions and resources is growing, as the Commission continues to talk to the various departments and agencies that oversee the ACA process here in Nebraska. To get you started, here are a few of the most important websites to become familiar with.

<https://www.healthcare.gov/> -- The Federally run Health Insurance Marketplace for Nebraska.

<https://questions.cms.gov/faq.php?id=5005&rtopic=1993> - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services FAQs – The top Health Insurance Marketplace questions.

<http://www.doi.nebraska.gov/aca/index.html> - Nebraska Department of Insurance ACA – information for consumers, health care providers, agents and navigators, companies, and small businesses.

<http://marketplace.cms.gov/> -- Under “Get Official Resources”: publications, articles, and brochures for professionals, librarians included.

http://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/Libraries_and_Health_Insurance_Preparing_for_October_1.html -- WebJunction recently hosted a webinar on Libraries & Health Insurance: Preparing for October 1

These are just a few of the resources available, so stay tuned to the Nebraska Library Commission webpage for updates.

If you have any questions, please call or email Mary Sauers at (402) 471-4017 or mary.sauers@nebraska.gov

EveryoneOn Ad Campaign Promotes Libraries' Role in Digital Literacy

The State of America's Libraries Report for 2013 states that libraries maintain their role as technology leaders as changes in technology and social networking continue at a dizzying pace. Libraries are a key resource for community members who need assistance in getting connected.

The Ad Council is promoting the importance of digital literacy skills and increased access to free computer and Internet training classes by running public service announcements. These have already aired on various Nebraska media outlets. Viewers will be directed to call a toll free number or visit a website where they can access free computer and Internet training classes in their area.

Visit www.everyoneon.org and click on Tools and Resources to find instructions on how to view your library's listing and add any classes that your library is currently offering.

Also see <http://www.digitallearn.org> for training materials you can share with your patrons to help them learn how to use the computer.

OCLC WorldCat ILL Switching to WorldShare

From SoLis Newsletter, Southeastern Library System

For libraries who have been doing interlibrary loan through OCLC, you should know that the old interface will no longer be available after Thanksgiving. OCLC will turn off the borrowing function in the current WorldCat Resource Sharing interface. You will borrow through WorldShare ILL only. The Nebraska Library Commission (NEBASE) has not been an OCLC network since July 2009; therefore, the Commission cannot act as an intermediary to switch your library to the new WorldShare ILL interface and cannot provide training on the new system. That service is available from OCLC directly. There are online tutorials available on the OCLC website to help ease the transition to the new interface.

Libby Munsell, Killgore Memorial Library in York, has found it easy to navigate and understand. "It took a couple weeks for me to stop using the WorldCat site alongside the WorldShare site to compare the two and get used to the appearance of the new service," she said. "I am pleased with WorldShare and find it provides a modern and sensible display with user-friendly features to make working with ILL a smooth process. I suggest easing into the switch while you have time so you can learn by comparison, attend virtual training sessions, and explore."

**Eastern Library System
Board Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2013
Blair Public Library**

Present: Rosa Schmidt, Gayle Roberts, Nora Hillyer, Lowen Kruse, Sarah Swain, Francine Canfield, Marcia Jussel. Alternates: John Seyfarth, Mary Jo Mack. Ex-Officio: Gail Formanack, Brian Maass. Guest: Sally Snyder. Absent: David Privett, Tammy Lorenz, Rose Barcal, Anneka Ramirez.

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Board President Rosa Schmidt

Announcements: Blair Public Library's plan for a new building will go before the city council on Aug 27th.

Recognition of Guest: Sally Snyder from the Nebraska Library Commission presented a written report on the various activities happening at NLC.

Seyfarth moved and Roberts seconded the approval of the June 7, 2013 board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's reports for June and July were reviewed and filed for audit.

Correspondence – Several Thank You notes were received.

Executive Director's Report - Gail Formanack presented a report of ELS activities and handed out a parliamentary procedure document

Committee Reports:

Fundraising – The Barnes & Noble Author Event/Book Fair raised around \$200. Another one will be held on Black Friday. The Younkers event is starting. Roberts will attend a kick-off meeting Aug 21.

Old Business:

Strategic Planning for ELS was discussed. An ad hoc committee was formed to start a planning process. Committee includes: Roberts, Schmidt, Swain.

Annual review of conflict of interest policy was tabled until next board meeting.

Scholarships totaling \$4,875 and Grants totaling \$8,910 were awarded to ELS members in July

Board provided input to Gail and Francine, who will be representing ELS at the upcoming NLC/Systems Quarterly Meeting to discuss system organization contingencies in the event of continued funding losses.

New Business:

Election of Board Officers.

- Seyfarth moved (Canfield seconded) to elect Schmidt for a second term as President. Motion passed.
- Roberts moved (Jussel seconded) to elect Barcal as Vice President. Motion passed.
- Seyfarth moved (Jussel seconded) to elect Canfield for a second term as Treasurer. Motion passed.
- Canfield moved (Schmidt seconded) to elect Hillyer as Secretary. Motion passed.

Board entered Closed Session at 10:55am to discuss personnel issues. Returned to meeting at 11:00am.

Mack moved (Jussel seconded) to approve a one-time consulting fee for the Executive Director of \$4600. This amount will be included in the 2013/2014 budget under Director's Salary. Motion passed.

Seyfarth moved (Jussel seconded) to approve annual employment contracts for the Executive Director and Library Services Assistant. Motion passed.

Seyfarth moved (Schmidt seconded) to approve Budget for 2013/2014 as presented by Director Formanack and Treasurer Canfield. Motion passed.

Committee assignment sign-up sheets were passed around. Results will be provided at next board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next Meeting: October 4, 2013 at Bellevue University

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Maass, Library Services Assistant

2013
NLA/NSLA
Pre-
Conference

Wednesday
October 9, 2013
1:00—4:00 PM

Younes
Conference
Center

416 Talmadge
Street

Kearney NE
68845

Breaking Down Barriers to Excellent Customer Service: Body Language and Social Barriers

Presenter: Theresa Dickson

Assistant Director for Planning
and Operations at the Pioneer
Library System in Norman, OK

We will look at both sides of the “desk”: who is wanting service and who is delivering what is defined as service. We will also look at the cultures of customer service: ours, theirs, the “times” and investigate non-verbal communication codes including signage, way-finding and body language. The session will include scripting and group work for re-tooling.

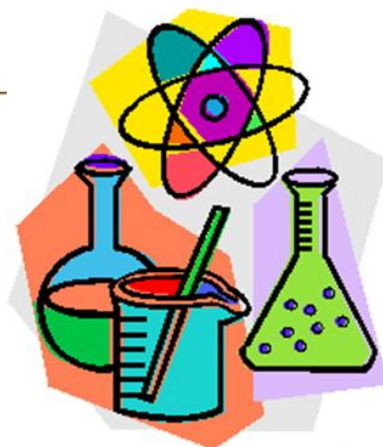


REGISTRATION : \$35

You can register online at
<http://nebraskalibraries.org/conf2013>

Sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems

Fizz, Boom, Read



Eastern Library System Summer Reading Workshop and Presenters' Fair for 2014

November 15, 2013

LaVista Public Library

9110 Giles Road, LaVista (Exit I-80 at Giles/Harrison and travel east. Follow signs to Metro Community College/LaVista Public Library).

8:45—9:05 am	Registration & Refreshments
9:05—9:15	Welcome and introductions
9:15—10:00	Book Reviews by Sally Snyder (NLC)
10:00—10:45	Hands on program activities for Fizz, Boom, Read by Mary Matuszewski (Sump Memorial Library)
10:45—11:00	Break
11:00—11:45	Book reviews for tweens & teens by Lindsey Tomsu (LaVista)
11:45—12:30	Share Time (part 1) Bring a program, activity/craft, promotion or prize idea or a book title to share. Please bring 50 copies of your idea.
12:30—1:00	Lunch
1:00—1:45	Share Time (part 2)
1:45—4:00	Presenters' fair

Cost: \$17 (checks to ELS) which includes lunch
Continuing education credit available.

YOU MUST SEND YOUR REGISTRATION BY November 8th. Make sure you let us know you are coming by mail or fax (402-330-1859) by the due date even if waiting for the city to send payment.

Name _____

Library _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Send to:
Eastern Library System
11929 Elm Street, Suite 18
Omaha, NE 68144